

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) ~~A purified~~ An isolated nucleic acid comprising a sequence at least 80% identical to SEQ ID NO:15, wherein said sequence encodes IL-32, and wherein said sequence ~~comprises exon 3 and exon 4 of IL-32 in substantially contiguous association~~ comprises:

- a) exon 3 in substantially contiguous association with exon 4; and
- b) exon 7 in substantially contiguous association with exon 8.

2. (original) The nucleic acid of Claim 1, wherein said IL-32 is an alpha isoform comprising the amino acid sequence set forth as SEQ ID NO:7.

3-4. (canceled)

5. (currently amended) The nucleic acid of Claim 1, wherein said sequence ~~lacks intron 4 of IL-32~~ is at least 90% identical to SEQ ID NO:15.

6. (currently amended) The nucleic acid of Claim 1, wherein said sequence is at least ~~90% identical~~ 95% identical to SEQ ID NO:15.

7. (currently amended) The nucleic acid of Claim 1, wherein said sequence ~~is selected from the group consisting of~~ comprises SEQ ID NO:3, ~~SEQ ID NO:4 and SEQ ID NO:6.~~

8. (currently amended) The nucleic acid of ~~Claim 1~~ any one of Claims 1, 2, 5, 6 or 7, wherein said sequence is operably linked to a heterologous promoter.

9. (currently amended) ~~The~~ A vector comprising the nucleic acid of Claim 8, ~~wherein said nucleic acid is contained within a vector.~~

10. (original) A host cell comprising the vector of Claim 9.

11-44. (canceled)